



# News From City Hall

## Vandalism On the Rise in Our Parks

Vandalism seems to be a growing problem in every City, State and all across our Nation, including Central Point. Trying to figure out a way to stop this or lessen the impact on the parks is an ongoing problem. Over the past year the City has seen damage and destruction at the war memorial, parks equipment, restrooms, trees and lights downtown and light poles and fixtures throughout the city, which has added up to thousands of dollars in repair.

Every dollar that is spent to repair or replace the damage done by these vandals is money that could have been used to either add a feature, or replace an older feature in our parks system. The more money we use to replace and repair is less money we have for new parks and improvements. It is important to get across to as many Citizens as possible that when you see someone vandalize, you need to report these people or their acts to the Central Point Police right away. Every citizen of Central Point is a park owner, you wouldn't want someone coming onto your home property being destructive, remember as a tax payer these are your parks. Help the Parks Department fight this abuse.

Most people don't realize is that these individuals have either never learned proper respect for other's property, or they are just being rebellious which often leads to destructive behavior. This behavior is usually a result of lack of education or lack of supervision. The Central Point Police and parks departments have started an early childhood education program to teach kids in our school system the value of our wonderful park system, which the City hopes will help long term. The lack of supervision we can combat by reporting abuse when you see it happening, very few of us live without a cell phone anymore. Prompt reporting of abusive behavior will help to catch those individuals. As a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle you are the teacher. Educate your children about proper respect of others property and remind them that they also stewards of the parks and should take care of them.



The final issue is that we as a Parks Department can't be in all the parks all the time. While we are in the parks daily we have over 129 acres of open space in Central Point and only three park maintenance employees working in the parks. This is where you as a resident of our beautiful City can help. We have been trying to recruit Park Watch volunteers

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Adopt a Street Program

The City has implemented an adopt a street program. The City of Central Point Adopt-A-Street Program is part of a joint effort between our City government and residents to keep our right-of-ways and neighborhoods litter free and beautiful. The program is voluntary and is designed for organizations, businesses, and individuals who want to express their pride and commitment to the community. Groups that sign up will be acknowledged with a community sign on the street they are maintaining. For more information on adopt a street please contact Public Works at 664-3321, ext. 241 or Sara at ext 265.



The Finance Department is first to greet you when you visit city hall. Most of our responsibilities are “financial”, but our main priority is you - our customers. Whether paying your water bill or asking questions about other city services, we are here to help! We pride ourselves in “Best of Class” customer service and always strive to answer your questions, direct you to the appropriate department, or find a resolution to your concerns.

We do much more than just take water bill payments. We work with the Public Works department to insure your monthly bill is correct – requesting confirmation of meter readings when usage seems too high. We take great care to post your payment to your bill quickly and accurately.

Sometimes we all need a helping hand. We offer a low income discount on utility bills for those who qualify. Stop by or call for more information.

To provide better communication to our Spanish speaking customers, Margarita is bi-lingual and ready to be of assistance whenever you need help.

We also have a Municipal Court which handles traffic and municipal code violations written by the Central Point Police Department and Code Enforcement.

If you are just starting a new business or an established business needing a renewal, business licenses are sold here.

We provide monthly financial statements for the city as well as the annual budget document. The City’s budget is very important to us because it controls and guides the projects and services that we provide during the year; and the monthly financial statements tell us how well we are doing along the way!

We pay vendors for products and services provided for all city departments. Recently, centralized purchasing was brought into the Finance Department. We diligently strive to minimize expenses and stretch your tax dollars by shopping around for the best prices for materials and supplies.

We work together as a “team”! We care about our customers and each other, and enjoy working with other city departments to bring you services that help make Central Point a great place to live.

We are truly here to help. If you have comments, concerns or suggestions that would help us improve our service to you, our valued customer, please contact us by phone at 541-664-6321 or email [cityfinancedepartment@centralpointoregon.gov](mailto:cityfinancedepartment@centralpointoregon.gov). Good or bad, we would love to hear from you!

### Water Conservation Tips

- ⇒ Water lawns during the cool parts of the day, mornings or evenings. It prevents evaporation during the hot hours of the day. Don’t water on windy days, wind increases evaporation.
- ⇒ Adjust your sprinklers so they do not spray sidewalks or driveways.
- ⇒ Use drip irrigation instead of a hose or sprinkler for gardens.
- ⇒ Hand-water lawns or gardens instead of using sprinklers. You use less than half as much water this way.
- ⇒ Get a rain sensor for your automatic sprinklers, or make sure to turn them off on days when rain is expected.
- ⇒ Set lawn mower blades one notch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation.
- ⇒ Direct the water drain line from your air conditioner to a flower bed, tree base or onto your lawn.
- ⇒ Plant native species requiring less water. Try landscaping with rock gardens, and native trees and plants that won’t require much water.
- ⇒ Find additional water conservation tips/information go to [www.h2oconserve.org](http://www.h2oconserve.org)

## Safety Corner

Being familiar with such a simple item such as a fire extinguisher is surprisingly not so common. Although we may have one or two extinguishers in our homes, and several dozen in the workplace, are we really prepared to put out a small fire without hesitation?

Knowing what type of extinguisher you have is also important. The common type for most fires, is the "ABC" extinguishers. Can you name other types and do you know what type of fire they are specifically designed for?

Most of this information can be found on various sites on the Web, but to actually pull the pin and use an extinguisher may be intimidating to some. It is important that homeowners and workers alike become familiar with how to use an extinguisher.

One way that you might be able to accomplish that, is to have your local fire department conduct the necessary training on fire safety and the use of fire extinguishers at your workplace.



The City recently conducted its own "in-house" Fire Extinguisher Training, attended by Public Works, Parks, Police, and most City Hall workers. It was apparent that many appreciated the fact they now know how to use an extinguisher and, in the event of a small fire, they would feel a little more comfortable about extinguishing a fire.

Are you prepared to extinguish a fire?

## City Floodplain Information Services

As a public service, the City will provide you with the following flood hazard information:

- ◆ Whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as shown on the current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).
- ◆ Flood insurance information for a site, such as the FIRM Zone and the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) or depth, if shown on the FIRM.

The City also provides information about the flood insurance purchase requirement, which may be helpful for people who are applying for a mortgage or loan to purchase property in the SFHA. The City maintains elevation certificates that are completed for properties in the SFHA. Elevation Certificates, and other important flood information, are available for public review at any time on the City's website.

To utilize the City's floodplain information service, please provide the street address of the property you are interested in. We are open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can contact the City's Floodplain Coordinator by telephone at 664.7602, Ext. 244 or stop by City Hall at 140 South 3rd Street during business hours. There is no charge for this service.

## Deadline Approaching for Amnesty Program

If you have fines owing in the Central Point Municipal Court that has resulted in a suspension holding your license, you have until May 15, 2010 to take advantage of the Amnesty Program. This program enables you to save 25% on your fines, and 50% on any accrued interest -- if you are able to pay in full to clear all pending citations.

This is a great opportunity to get your license back, and possibly save a lot of money in the process. For more information please call our Court Clerk at 541-423-1037.

Jackson County Justice Court at 505 Oak Street in Central Point is also participating in the Amnesty Program until April 30, 2010. If you have citations pending in that Court please call them directly at 541-774-1286.

## Public Works

### DOGS IN PARKS

Ordinance 1899 was approved by Council in 2007 allowing dogs in the parks.

#### **9.68.170** Dogs in parks.

Dogs shall be allowed in parks on leash only (not to exceed six feet in length) with the exception of designated dog parks. Any excrement created by an animal shall be immediately removed by the owner. Some areas in parks may be designated to prohibit dogs and will be posted accordingly. (Ord. 1899 §1 (part), 2007).

Currently dogs are not allowed in the War Memorial, Water Park, and any playground areas.

As a courtesy to our citizens the Parks Department provides bags at each of the parks so you can clean up after your pets. Please observe the rules so we can continue to exercise our pets in the parks.

### STREET CREW

The street crew has been busy this winter fixing potholes and conducting sign maintenance. They will also be conducting alley maintenance and dust control soon. Please be aware of the crews who will be repairing the cross walks and stop bars around town. Once the weather changes, crack seal season for our streets will begin again. This year we will be concentrating our crack seal efforts towards Hwy 99. The work will be in the early morning hours so watch for the crews. Our city street sweeper will continue to run on a daily basis.

### WATER CREW

The water crew has spent most of the last couple of months on service repairs. When we did meter inspections a few months ago, we found some services that needed minor repairs. This month with the help of Medford Water Commission we are testing all the large meters in the City. These meters are primarily associated with large water users and businesses. We also will be starting small meter/ service inspections in April and May, which are the meters that serve residential customers.



### 2010 Battle of the Bones

June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at Twin Creeks Park

**Barbecue Competition:** Saturday is Pork Spare Ribs and Sunday is Beef Brisket. You receive samples from all teams, approximately 1 pound of meat! **\$10**

**Microbrew Competition:** Get 16 2-ounce samples from a variety of breweries; you get to keep the pint glass! **\$10**

**Wine Competition:** Get 12 1-ounce samples; you get to keep the wine glass! **\$10**

Combine a Barbecue and Microbrew Ticket for only **\$15!**

**Free Kids Zone:** Kids get to enjoy free activities all day long! This includes jump houses, fun games, temporary tattoos, a large coloring wall, balloon artists and more! Sponsored by ABK! **FREE** for all kids!

Get **free entry** and enjoy live music! Call 541-423-1978 or visit [www.BattleoftheBones.com](http://www.BattleoftheBones.com) for more information.

## Vandalism Continued.....

(Continued from page 1)

for the past year, to date we have only had about 4 calls. Park Watch programs are one of the easiest ways to help keep our parks safe, clean and lower our vandalism costs. How does it work? As a resident of the City of Central Point you live, work, or commute by the parks every day. You often walk through, by or play in the parks. What we are asking is that you keep your eyes and ears open and report vandalism that you note in our parks. If you are interested in becoming a Park Watch volunteer and help us begin this much needed program, give us a call at 541-664-3321 ext 214 or 263. Only with the help of each resident and park user can we as park stewards keep our parks the safe and clean places we enjoy.

Thank you for your help.



**Concerned about your summer water bill? Go to [www.centralpointoregon.gov](http://www.centralpointoregon.gov) and check out the new water rate comparison page under "News and Updates."**



### Friday Night Music & Movie Festival

Date:	Musical Entertainment:	Movie:
July 9	KRWQ Showdown 5pm	Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
July 16	Old Stage Road 6pm	E.T.
July 23	Hog Wild 6pm	Where the Wild Things Are
July 30	TBA	Monsters vs. Aliens
August 6	Off the Wall Band 6pm	Free Willy
August 13	Ed Dunsavage Latin Band	Planet 51

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:**

ERICKSON AIR-CRANE:  
E.T.  
UMPQUA BANK  
KRWQ:  
KRWQ Showdown  
VALLEY FAMILY PRACTICE:  
Where the Wild Things Are & Ed Dunsavage Latin Band



## What Is This Guy Doing?

The Public Works Department is documenting all sidewalks with a Global Positions System (GPS) and taking pictures of the known areas that pose a potential hazard, such as uneven surfaces, and



non-existing sidewalks. After the data has been entered into Geographic Information System (GIS), the City will begin to repair these hazards.



## 3rd Annual Public Works Week

At Community Park  
(5th & Cedar Street)

Are you aware what's above you?  
How about What is below the  
Ground?

Come have these questions and  
more answered.

**Monday, May 17th 12 - 3 pm**  
OPEN HOUSE

Everyone is welcome, visitors 18  
and older can enter to win a \$50  
Central Point water bill credit.

**May 18th & 19th 9 - 3**

4th Graders from Central Point  
visit to learn about Public Works!  
Parents are welcome.

## Calendar of Events

### May

- 4 - Planning Commission 6 pm
- 10 - Multicultural Committee 6 pm
- 13 - Council Meeting 7 pm
- 15 - City wide Yard Sale 9 - 5
- 17 - Study Session 6 pm
- 17 - 19 Public Works Week
- 27 - Council Meeting 7 pm

### June

- 1 - Planning Commission 6 pm
- 10 - Council Meeting 7 pm
- 21 - Study Session 6 pm
- 24 - Council Meeting 7 pm
- 26 - 27 Battle of the Bones

The meetings listed above are open to the public and held in the City Council Chambers at 140 S. 3rd Street. If you need special accommodations please call 541-423-1026

*The City of Central Point Preliminary Flood Map 90-day appeal period began on March 19, 2010. Anyone may submit appeals to the base flood elevation information or comment and protest other information, such as the flood zone designation or boundaries. For more information visit the Floodplain Management web pages under the Public Works Department Directory on the City's website: [www.centralpointoregon.gov](http://www.centralpointoregon.gov).*



## City of Central Point PUBLIC NOTICE for Weed Abatement

It is unlawful and a public nuisance for any owner or occupant of real property within the City limits of Central Point to allow grass, weeds, brush or bushes, or any like vegetation over a height of ten inches to remain upon such real property during the period between May 15, and October 15, of any calendar year; provided that this shall not apply to ornamental shrubs, bushes or other like vegetation maintained and kept in a landscaped yard or place, or any crop grown and maintained for pasturage upon property fenced, zoned, and otherwise lawfully used for said purpose. All such growth shall be cut and removed within 15 days from the date of the publication of this notice. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Ron Barnett, Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Central Point at 664-3321 ext 251 or email [ron.barnett@centralpointoregon.gov](mailto:ron.barnett@centralpointoregon.gov).